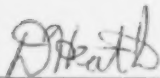


MAQUINNA PROVINCIAL PARK

PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN

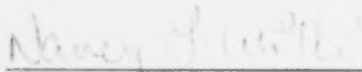
February 2003

Approved by:



Dick Heath
Regional Manager
Environmental Stewardship Division

Date: Feb. 8/03



Nancy Wilkin
Assistant Deputy Minister
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Date: Feb 24/03



MAQUINNA PROVINCIAL PARK Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

Primary Role

The **primary** role of Maquinna Provincial Park is to protect and showcase special values such as geothermal and geological features. The park protects a significant hot spring on Vancouver Island and its associated hot temperature ecosystem, a unique underwater vent, and sea caves. The upland hot springs provides a focus for recreation and tourism to both visitors to and residents of Clayoquot Sound.

Secondary Role

The **secondary** role is to provide remote recreational activities such as camping, kayaking, fishing, nature appreciation and soaking in the hot springs. Hot Springs Cove is a popular destination for kayakers and hikers, and is well-used by commercial tour guide operators, fishermen, and local First Nation people. The park is for day use purposes only; however, adjacent to the park is a private commercial campground operated by the Hesquiaht First Nation.

Maquinna Provincial Marine Park is in the western part of Clayoquot Sound situated on the south-east coast of Hesquiaht Harbour. The park is accessible by boat and float plane from Hot Springs Cove and Tofino. There are three good anchorage locations in the park – Maquinna is one of the few parks on the West Coast of Vancouver Island which has facilities for cruising boaters nearby (a store and marine fuelling station). Park facilities are limited to the hot springs portion of the park, and these include a two-kilometre boardwalk, two composting toilets, a viewing platform and a change house.

Tertiary Role

The **tertiary** role is to protect and conserve the coastal natural environment in the Clayoquot Sound area. With both marine and upland ecosystems, this park is biologically diverse and provides habitat for a number of red and blue-listed species, including marbled murrelet, northern sea lion, sea otter, surf scoter, killer whale, harbour porpoise, humpback whale, northern abalone, and gray whale.

In addition, Maquinna Park provides significant habitat for seabirds, numerous coastal birds and eighteen nesting sites for bald eagles. Two kelp bed sites are highly to moderately important for herring spawning. Several rivers and creeks in the park provide salmon spawning habitat.

The marine portion of Maquinna Park contributes 1.55% to the protection of the Vancouver Island Shelf (VIS) Marine Ecosection, which is presently under-represented at 5.4%.

Management Issues

Known Management Issue	Response
Potential for deteriorating water quality in hotsprings	➤ Monitor fecal coliform contamination and physical and chemical properties in hotsprings. ➤ Develop a ecosystem management plan for hot water ecosystem.

	➤ Consider restrictions of number of bathers to protect human health and hot water ecosystem.
Relationships with First Nations and pending treaty settlements	➤ Develop good working relationships with First Nations to develop an understanding and appreciation of protected area status and park values. ➤ Liaise with Central Region Board (CRB) to inform them of management issues in park.
Lack of knowledge and awareness of cultural values	➤ Undertake cultural inventory of whole park in conjunction with First Nations.
Impacts of recreational use on cultural sites and values	➤ In conjunction with First Nations, develop interpretative information on park values and appropriate behaviour.
Participation in Biosphere Reserve	➤ Work with Biosphere Foundation and CRB to ensure BC Parks perspective is taken in account in Biosphere activities and projects.
Crowding at hotspots	➤ Monitor use, impact and visitor satisfaction. ➤ Consider restrictions in numbers of visitors to maintain a high quality of experience.
Jurisdiction of wharf	➤ Work with Small Craft Harbours to acquire management and administration of wharf in order to control access to hotspots.
Residential infrastructure surrounding the Hesquiaht community of Hotspots within park boundaries	➤ Modify park boundaries to delete infrastructure (water supply, incinerator).

Zoning

Natural Environment Zone - covers the developed area of the park, the boardwalk area to the hotspots and supporting facilities (<2% of the park). The objective of this zone is to protect scenic values and to provide recreation opportunities in a largely undisturbed natural environment.

Special Features Zone – covers the hotspots themselves, warm springs and a gas vent (<1% of the park). The objective of this zone is to protect and present significant natural or cultural features, resources, or processes because of their special character, fragility and heritage values.

Wilderness Recreation – covers the bulk of the park (98%) in recognition of the wilderness values and the natural values that are protected in this area. The objective of this zone is to protect a remote, undisturbed natural landscape and to provide backcountry recreation opportunities depending on a pristine environment where air access may be permitted to designated sites.

Representation
- ecosection

Conservation

- ☒ Contributes minimally to the representation of the well-represented Windward Island Mountains Ecosection (17.42%). Maquinna contributes only 0.06% to the overall representation of this ecosection. Maquinna has 1,398 hectares of foreshore and contributes 1.6% to the protection of the Vancouver Island Shelf (VIS) Marine Ecosection, which is presently under-represented in the protected area system at 5.4%.

- biogeoclimatic subzone/variant

- ☒ Contributes minimally to the representation of the well-represented CWHvh1 (19.34%). Maquinna contributes only 1.33% to the overall representation of CWHvh1.

Special Features

- ☒ Hot springs, underwater geothermal vents, sea caves

Rare/Endangered Values

- ☒ Sea otters, northern sea lions, surf scoters, gray whales, marbled murrelet, northern abalone

Scientific/Research Opportunities

- ☒ Rare species

Representation
backcountry
destination
travel corridor
local recreation

Recreation

- ☐ Not Applicable
☒ Hot springs bathing, nature appreciation
☒ Kayak route in Clayoquot Sound
☒ Hot springs bathing, boating

Special Opportunities

- ☐ None known at this time

Education/Interpretation Opportunities

- ☒ Geothermal, cultural

Cultural Heritage

Representation

- ☒ Community representation of early fishing industry/settlement patterns

Special Feature

- ☒ Possible spiritual sites associated with hot springs and burial caves

Other Management Considerations

Other Designations

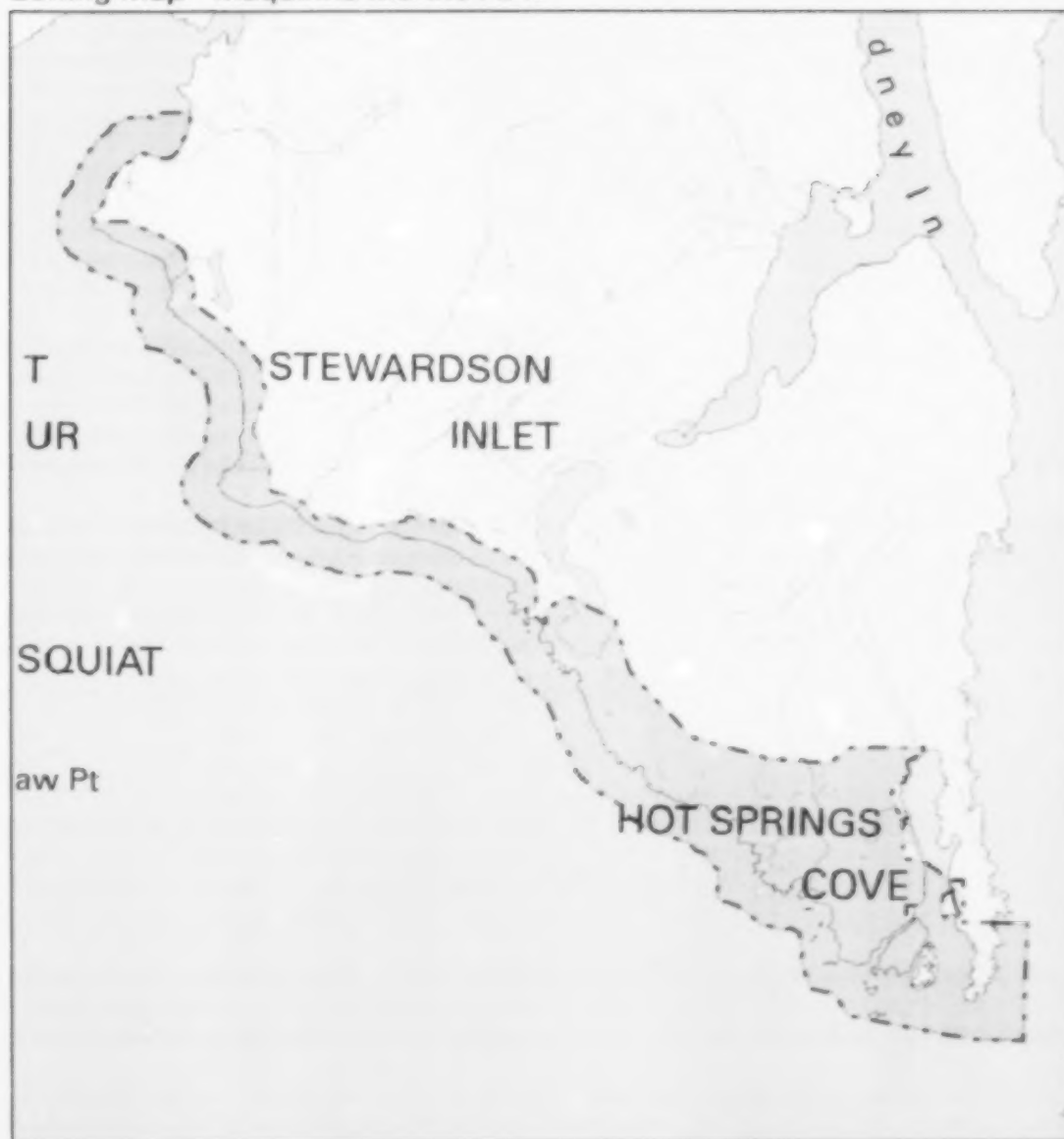
- ☐ Not Applicable

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Relationship to other PAs | ☒ | Part of system of protected areas in Clayoquot Sound |
| Co-operative Management Arrangements | ☒ | Encompassed in the Interim Measures Extension Agreement with the Nuuchah-Nulth/Clayoquot Sound Central Region Board |
| Partnerships | ☐ | Not Applicable |
| Vulnerability | ☒ | Potential water quality degradation in hot springs due to adjacent activities. Small size limits ability to protect ecosection and biogeoclimatic variant. |
| Relationship to other Strategies | ☒ | Within the Clayoquot Biosphere Reserve; large addition to the park occurred in 1995 as a result of the Clayoquot Sound Land Use Decision |

Area: 2,667.6 hectares (1,269 ha upland; 1,398 ha foreshore)

Date of establishment: January 7, 1955. A large addition was made to the park in 1995 as a result of the Clayoquot Sound Land Use Decision

Zoning Map - Maquinna Marine Park



Projection: Albers Equal Areas
Datum: NAD83

- Natural Environment
- Wilderness Recreation
- Special Feature
- Protected Area Boundary

0 2
km

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